

From: [Fleming, Sheila](#)
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [Maxwell, Grady](#); [Filippini, Mark](#)
Subject: Re: Indoor Air Quality Test Results for the 14th floor
Date: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 6:38:22 PM

Hi (b) (6),

I asked Grady if he knew why the only air sample was collected in a mostly unoccupied space. His understanding is that they (I am not sure if 'they' is WA Holdings, the contractor or GSA) thought this would be a worst case scenario. However, there was no info provided in the results that supports this assumption.

Please keep in mind that Grady is only the messenger.

Sheila

From: (b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 3:24:36 PM
To: (b) (6)(b) (6); Maxwell, Grady; R10-OEA Mail Group; Voytilla, Marykay
Subject: RE: Indoor Air Quality Test Results for the 14th floor

Grady, as well do you have any further information about the process used for setting the LEED 'maximum allowable values'. From my review it looks like they are actually maximum allowable **average** values, but it is unclear from the report what the averaging period is for these MAVs. I also noted that the sampling occurred over 4 hours and am wondering why it did not cover a typical 8 hour work day and why it was confined to just the GIS room. Any further information you can find about the LEED MAVs and associated sampling protocols would be good to have and forward to OEA staff.

Thanks, (b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 3:11 PM
To: Maxwell, Grady; R10-OEA Mail Group; Voytilla, Marykay
Subject: RE: Indoor Air Quality Test Results for the 14th floor

Oops, got distracted by someone and somehow pressed send. TCE is a common component of adhesives, and is frequently detected in indoor air in new construction because of its presence in those building materials. Given that we weren't supposed to have lead in drinking water in our LEED platinum building, yet did, it seems prudent to not assume the presence of chlorinated VOCs common in new building materials even though they shouldn't be there. The reporting limits for TCE are insufficient to comply with the recommendations OEA has made for action to be implemented at hazardous waste sites where TCE is detected. Specifically, in an occupational setting, short term exposures to concentrations greater than 6-8 ug/m3 pose an unacceptable potential for cardiac malformations in unborn children. The critical time period in gestation is prior to anyone knowing they are pregnant. Thus, action to limit exposure should be taken where women of childbearing age are potentially exposed. We should extend the same level of concern and protection to EPA employees that we would the general public. This problem could have been solved here, and going forward by using EPA Method TO-15 to analyze the air samples, which should provide sufficient detection limits.

Thanks,

(b) (6)

From: (b) (6)(b) (6)

Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 2:58 PM

To: Maxwell, Grady; R10-OEA Mail Group

Subject: RE: Indoor Air Quality Test Results for the 14th floor

Grady, thanks for forwarding this. However, I have a couple of questions. While I understand that this sampling may meet the “minimum” requirements for LEED sampling, it appears to be inadequate in terms of the reporting limits. It’s

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U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10

1200 6th Ave

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206-553- (b) (6)

From: Maxwell, Grady

Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 2:33 PM

To: R10-OEA Mail Group

Subject: Indoor Air Quality Test Results for the 14th floor

Hello OEA,

The safety and health program has received the 14th floor indoor air-quality report and attached it for each of you to see prior to our move.

EHS International conducted indoor air quality testing of the following:

- Carbon Monoxide
- Formaldehyde
- 4-PCH
- Total Volatile Organic Compounds

The samples were sent to Galson Laboratories for analysis which resulted in a “PASS” status.

Please feel free to look through the report and if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact me at 3-0241.

Thanks,

Grady Maxwell, MPH

Regional Safety Officer

Office of Environmental Assessment

U.S. EPA, Region 10

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206-399-9394 (CELL)

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